

# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 9

January 13, 2000

David Geeslin

The impact of this new year of 2000 really started me thinking about resolutions. The more I pondered about this, the more one question kept coming to mind: "What is the purpose of education for our students?" Everyone probably has a different answer to this question. What I feel are the important purposes for educating our students may be different from yours. For example, I think one purpose of education is to help children become independent learners – to be able to find what they need on their own. I am asking my staff to submit their views, and I would very much like to know what you think and believe. Please email me with your beliefs about the purpose of education at ([dgeeslin@wyndtell.com](mailto:dgeeslin@wyndtell.com)) or send them to school with your child addressed to me. I am going to post your, my, and our staff's views on a bulletin board so everyone can compare the similarities as well as reflect on the different perspectives we may have. By sharing this, we hope to be able to then incorporate some of these differing views into our daily practices while teaching our students. Your views are important. Thanks.



## Laura's News

In Language Arts we've been involved with the millennium activities. We watched Bill Carwhile's mime show and went to a workshop to learn how to be mimes ourselves! We went to the Student Talent Show and really enjoyed it! In class, we compared the lives of Deaf people in the past and in the present. We tried to predict what the future would look like 50 years from now. We have been 'camping' with Arthur (from the book series by Marc Brown). We've even learned about BIGFOOT (a fantasy creature that lives in the woods). These stories are about creatures and people who are NOT REAL and can be really fun to read!

## Sue & Lou's News

The Applied Classes were excited about returning to school. Everyone was eager to begin. We had a wonderful surprise. All the old carpet had been removed from our room. We had nice, bright, clean tile. Our room looked huge. Everyone was extremely thrilled. It was so nice to return to a new, clean environment

Our other surprise was a new student in Miss Jones' class. We are happy to have Jamie Winslow from Lawrenceburg attending I. S. D. Jamie is 10 years old and in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. WELCOME JAMIE!

## First Grade News: Marie Kellam-Cook

The first grade will be having their annual Valentine's Day Post Office. We will begin on January 31, 2000. If you would like your child to participate, please send a box of valentine cards and one box of letter-sized envelopes. Your child's teacher will inform you if your child will be writing them at home or at school. We work on letter writing skill and addressing envelopes at school. There are specific guidelines for each grade level, so please check with your teacher before having your child address them at home.

We would like to welcome Karin Park to our classroom. She is subbing as my teacher's aide. WELCOME BACK! She is doing a great job and the students are enjoying working with her.

Happy 2000!

## STELLAR NEWS!

The Stellar Cellar no longer accepts clothing. We are adding new items to the store. Come take a look! We are located in the main building (6), in the basement. The room number is G44. The Stellar Cellar will have affordable

## STELLAR NEWS!







# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 10

January 27, 2000

## David Geeslin

Great News! Our 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> graders will give a play on Friday night, **Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.** It was originally scheduled on Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>, but I have decided to rescheduled it to later date because I feel it is important for our students to focus on the SAT-HI tests which they will take from Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure your child has a good night sleep and eats a good breakfast that week.



## Suzi McGeath's 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Class News

It is hard to believe January 2000 is almost over. We were very busy this month. Our class is very committed to learning and working hard. We are pleased to introduce our new team teacher, Kara Knebel, who is team teaching with Suzi for Social Studies and Science from 10:30 – 11:45 a.m. everyday. You can locate us in either Room #533 or #532. We are excited to have Kara with us.

We are thrilled with the new Science kit! We began using the kit as soon it was given out. Our first unit was on Balance and Motion. The first challenge for us was to balance a crayfish with our pointer finger. It took us some time to figure it out individually and then share our findings with our class. Then we had to figure out how to balance the crayfish using a variety of tricks. It was cool! We look forward to the next activity to use our skills to communicate our thoughts, findings and ideas.

Next week from February 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>, we will be taking the SAT-HI exam from 8:00 – 10:00 am. Our class will continue to do Language Arts from 10:30 – 11:45 am. Science, Social studies, and Math will be reduced to smaller time frames in the afternoons.

On Thursday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, our class was once again involved with Deer Run Elementary School second graders and Riley Hospital for Children with the Distance Learning Center. The theme was "Let Me Tell You a Story". Our special guest was Ted Myhre, our retired ASL teacher. Look for our stories in the next newsletter.

## Marie Kellam-Cook; First Grade

My first grade class has now began working on the annual Post Office. This is a very big responsibility. Every year we collect, sort and deliver over 1000 Valentine's cards for the department. This project works on word and number recognition, penmanship and reading an address. The department participates in this event. Please send in a box of Valentine cards and a box of letter-size envelopes with your child to school. Thanks for the support.

## NEW PROGRAM FOR THE ELEMENTARY DEPT.

As I was eating some cereal the other morning, I read the cereal box. I noticed that if we collected the box tops from GENERAL MILLS cereals we could earn \$.10 for each box top. The part of the top that we need says BOX TOP\$ FOR EDUCATION. I would like for the Elementary Department to start collecting these box tops. After we have collect several hundred, we can send them to the company and they will send us a check for the Elementary Department to use in anyway we wish. We could even let the students decide how to use it.

**PLEASE SEND THE BOX TOPS TO MARIE  
KELLAM-COOK**

Thanks for supporting the Elementary.

Also, did you know that every time you order from Scholastic Book clubs we earn points. Right now we have around 4000 points. We can earn computers, CD-Roms, books, small refrigerators,



etc.... from our points. Please help us reach our goal of 10,000 points. This is a great way to support literacy and the department at the same time.

### **Laura Gaalema's Class News**

We read "I Have a Sister, My Sister is Deaf", by Jeanne Peterson. The author herself has a Deaf sister. The older sister in the story tells what makes her younger Deaf sister special. The two sisters are good friends and like to do special kinds of things together. In class we talked about things that make our families special, and about the special people in our families. We all have skills and characteristics that make each of us special, and we need to "celebrate" those more often – at school and at home!

### **Linda Groogan and Gretchen Krug**

Fifth grade classes enjoyed seeing their Millennium PowerPoint project with other displays in the Science exhibit in Middle School. Fifth graders also compiled pictures of early 1900's inventions and science apparatus. We also found an old balance in Alumni Hall.

Classes are currently working on body systems; skeletal, muscular, circulatory, and respiratory.

### **News From Lou and Sue**

The weather outside has been perfect for our unit on clothing. Our classes have been busy making clothing books for the various seasons. We have selected clothing to wear inside and outside. We discussed what could happen to people who were not dressed properly. The terms of wind chill and heat index were discussed. We introduced the terms of hypothermia, frostbite, and heat stroke and discussed what happens to people.

## **ISD Elementary Newsletter**

Lou's class has been practicing the skill of following directions. They have made various types sandwiches. We all got to taste. YUMMY!

Sue's class has been cooking breakfast. They are independently cooking breakfast for the other students. First each student made 5 menus. When their turn arrives, they cook that particular breakfast. The breakfast may be bacon and eggs, or pancakes and hot chocolate. They have been following good safety rules also.

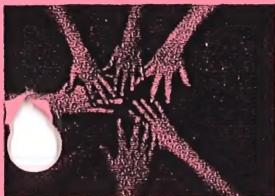
We have been busy counting our money. We earn money daily by completing jobs. Friday is payday. We count our money. We also earn a behavior allowance for perfect behavior for the entire week. We add this money with our job money. We will go shopping soon.



Here is your Newsletter!! Enjoy it!

Leah Grandt & Sami Krieger





# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 11 February 11, 2000

## David Geeslin



Great News! Our 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> graders will give a play on Friday night, **Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.** Even better, a spaghetti dinner will be provided free to families from 6 to 7 p.m.

Shari Kido will be interning under Toni Wolfe for Language Arts for ten weeks as a part of her Masters' degree in Deaf education. She will be teaching third, fourth and fifth grade students. Suzanne Bono will be a long-term substitute teacher for the ASL classes. She will incorporate Deaf studies and some drama to expand students' experiences and help them strengthen their ASL skills.

## PAC minutes

There will be no PAC meeting in this month. There are also no minutes of the previous meeting because there were no parents in attendance. Our next PAC meeting will be held March 13 from 3:15 to 4:00 p.m. in the elementary library.

## Reminder:

Parents need to ask the residential program for permission to leave their child(ren) in the dorm after 3 p.m. Marty Jernigan (girls) @ (317) 920-6293 or Harriett Hoffman (boys) @ (317) 920-6255 can grant permission for your child(ren) to stay in the dorm until 5 p.m. Their primary concern is having sufficient supervision to provide a safe and positive dorm experience for residential students. Therefore, there is a possibility that they cannot accept your child(ren) on specific days.

## Guy Vollmar's News

Fifth Grade News: Sparkle Bates, Teddy Neanover, Chris Lester, and Kamzi Blair have covered five regions of the Native Americans and their different cultures. They said they liked the Northwestern Indians best because of the whale hunting stories. The present unit of study is on "money". They are learning to add coins up to a given value, and making equal value, using different coins. It is a challenge for them.

Fourth Grade News: Colin Whited, Corey Burton, A.J. Christian, Michal Snead, Matthew Holsinger, Tahnee Brink, Chelsea Miller, and Baswanna James (eight of them now) are working on the different fraction skills. They now understand Mixed Numbers, Improper Fractions, Equivalent Fractions, Addition of Fractions, etc. They are still studying Indiana History – on how the Hero George Rogers Clark led his soldiers to "capture" the West from the British control.

Third Grade News: Nathan Cooley, Kyle Samuel, Essam Soomero, Mark Alcozer, Mignon Parks and Courtney Russell were sorry to see their classmate, Kelley Battice, move to Memphis, Tennessee. They do miss her now. The class has become familiar with and aware of the locations of cities and states. They are able to relate the location to the different stories as they heard about Martin L. King, the Super Bowl games, etc.. They have studied the textbook about the history of communities.

There is a small pet in the classroom. It is a hedgehog and her name is Hetty. The students fell in love with her. They always want to play with her or pet her. They are allowed to do this whenever they finish their class assignments.



### Becki Philhower's Class News

We have had lots of fun lately in our classroom. When our heating unit broke, lots of water came out all over the floor. The students helped put their things up on their desks, and quietly left the room. For the next week, we shared Kara Knebel's classroom with her. THANKS TO YOU, KARA!!!! All of the students did a fine job in transitioning from room to room, continuing to learn and enjoy each day's work! One week later, we are back in our classroom, thanks to two men from maintenance. THANKS TO YOU, DONNIE AND BILL!!!! A JOB VERY WELL DONE! We are very grateful to these three fireballs for assisting us in our time of need!

We have enjoyed working as postal workers this week! We have been sorting envelopes by room number and delivering them to the correct classroom using the room numbers. A big THANKS to everyone for writing clearly for us!

### New Face

I would like to introduce myself. I, Suzanne Bono, will be substitute teaching in Shari Kido's ASL class for ten weeks beginning on February 21 to May 10, 2000. I will be teaching your students Drama and/or Deaf Studies. Simultaneously, Shari will be a student teacher in Toni Wolfe's class.

Last fall, 1999, I completed my ten week internship in Linda Cooper's 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class. My majors are in both Elementary Education and Deaf Education from Western Maryland College in Westminster, Maryland. After volunteering in different classes at Willard Elementary School, I am currently working as a long-term substitute teacher.

I appreciate the opportunity to work with your students. I am looking forward to this time together. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me through your students' communication log or by visiting me here at the school anytime.

## ISD Elementary Newsletter

### NEW PROGRAM FOR THE ELEMENTARY DEPARTMENT

As I was eating some cereal the other morning, I read the cereal box. I noticed that if we collected the box tops from GENERAL MILLS cereals we could earn \$.10 for each box top. The part of the top that we need says BOX TOP\$ FOR EDUCATION. I would like the Elementary Department to start collecting these box tops. After we have collected several hundred, we can send them to the company and they will send us a check for the Elementary Department to use in anyway we wish. We could even let the students decide how to use it.

### **PLEASE SEND THE BOX TOPS TO MARIE KELLAM-COOK**

Thanks for supporting the Elementary Dept.

Also, did you know that every time you order from Scholastic Book Clubs, we earn points. Right now we have around 4000 points. We can earn computers, CD-ROMs, books, small refrigerators, etc.... from our points. Please help us reach our goal of 10,000 points. This is a great way to support literacy and the department at the same time.

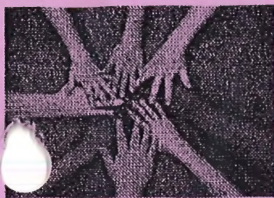
*This was your Newsletter!!*



*Hope you enjoyed it!*

*Main Library*





# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 11

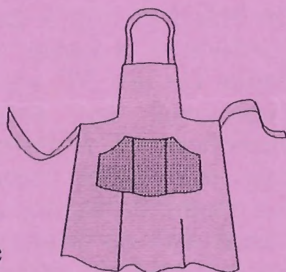
February 25, 2000

## Our Kindergarten Class

We have been keeping busy exploring our senses. For the Elementary Department's Science Fair, we focused on our sense of taste. We taste-tested four different types of pops and then recorded whether we liked each or not. We also made brownies and then – of course – ate some to see if we liked the taste. We were visited by 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes to look at our display!

We have also begun going to the "Stellar Cellar" store in Alumni Hall. Each day we buy popcorn and bring it back to class. In the afternoon we pop it and munch it. It has been a good learning experience helping our students understand about money and how it is used.

Kristin Ogan  
Mike Hughes  
Bradley Huser  
Ashley Liford  
Chris Fetzer, teacher  
Kelli Phillips, teacher's aide



## Becki Philhower's Class News



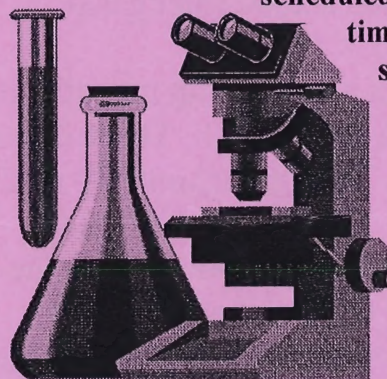
Through out the year, the first grade classes have enjoyed group stories about Spider, a new first grader. His first day at school story welcomed us back to school. His next two stories were about how he saved Halloween and Valentine's day. In the Valentine's day story, the

students were excited about the two caterpillars in Spider's class. Everyone in the class was worried about the caterpillars' lack of energy and friends. They prepared a surprise for their friends, only to find them gone when they entered the classroom. In their place were two beautiful butterflies!

Following that theme, my class has discussed the life cycle of a caterpillar into a butterfly. Our science fair project this week was to make a sample of the metamorphosis of a butterfly. We hope everyone enjoys our display!



**Hello! What is happening in 3,4,5<sup>th</sup> grade science classes? Thursday, March 2 will be our Science Celebration. Each class will be showing some thing they have learned. These activities will take place during your child's regularly scheduled science class**



**time. If you are not sure of the time, contact your child's TOR. This is a great opportunity for your child to share with you some things they are excited**

**about.**

**5<sup>th</sup> grade science classes have recently begun a unit on cells. We will be investigating the differences between plant and animal cells, and labeling the parts of cells.**

**3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes have been busy designing different landform models.**

**For the next few weeks we will be making a mountain model and different topographic maps.**

**4<sup>th</sup> grade we will be starting a unit on fossils.**

**Gretchen Krug and Linda Groogan**





### TED MYHRE's 2000 sailing trip

Ted Myhre told us a story about his sailing trip. He went CAY ISLAND. The sailboat had 4 bedrooms. The trip had only 10 deaf men and women. One man could sign a little bit. altogether, 11 sailors were on the trip. Ted slept in front of the boat. Ted was brave to sail through the big storm. He heard stories about many airplanes crashing during the storms. Ted arrived in Cay Island with other 10 sailors safely.

I really enjoyed Ted's story

BY TYLER CRACE

## Celebrating African American Inventors

**Presented by Suzi McGeath's Second Grade Class**

Our class shared three African-American inventors with Distance Learning Center and Spaghetti Dinner Show. The three inventors were

Garrett Morgan, George Washington Carver, and Madame Walker.

Garrett Morgan invented traffic lights. George Washington Carver invented peanuts and peanut butter. Madame Walker invented gel for African American people.

We had a lot of fun sharing their inventions.

By: Tony Dall & Shakaria Morris

This was part of our monthly distance learning center activities. This activity took place last January. The theme was "HOW TO TELL A STORY".

### Dance Kaleidoscope

On March 8 and 9 Dance Kaleidoscope will be conducting a series of workshops on modern dance for our 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Sponsored by Arts Partners (of Young Audiences of Indiana), they are taking two days out of their busy tour schedule to provide our students the opportunity to explore modern dance with an interpretation of an ASL story or poem with the assistance of Suzanne Bono). They will begin their residency with a brief audience participatory performance for our 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> graders demonstrating the shapes, patterns, rhythm and (most importantly) collaboration - necessary for creating dance. Each class will then have a series of 3 workshops over 2 days where they will create an original dance based upon an ASL story or poem. Each modern dance piece will be unique in several ways. It should be noted that, paramount to this project, there will be no reliance upon music - only visual collaboration.

The students will present a Dance Recital on March 9<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 PM in the elementary gym for the elementary school and their parents. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jeff King at the elementary department (or [jeffking@hotmail.com](mailto:jeffking@hotmail.com)).



# Indiana School for the Deaf Menu\*\*

Date: March 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>, 2000

For: Brown & Willard Cafes.

March is National Nutrition Month-"Food & Fitness: Health for a Lifetime."

	<i>Breakfast</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Dinner</i>
<b>M O N 6<sup>th</sup></b>	Pineapple Juice Dry or Cooked Cereal Scrambled Eggs Sausage Toast/Jelly	Cheeseburger/Bun *Chicken Lasagna Florentine French Fries Sandwich Toppings *Fruit Juice Bar Gourmet Cookies	Breaded Chicken Breast Filet Au Gratin Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Bread/Margarine Pineapple
<b>T U E S 7<sup>th</sup></b>	Orange Juice Dry or Cooked Cereal Poached Eggs Bacon Toast/Jelly or Danish	Lasagna *Cheese Manicotti Salad Garlic Texas Bread English Toffee Ice Cream Bar	Roast Pork/Gravy Seasoned Noodles Green Beans Bread/Margarine Peaches
<b>W E D 8<sup>th</sup></b>	Grape Juice Dry or Cooked Cereal Fried Eggs Bacon Toast/Jelly	Tacos *Cabbage Rolls Spanish Rice Salsa/Taco Toppings/ Sour Cream Pudding in a Tart	Fish Sticks/ Tartar Sauce Macaroni & Cheese Peas Bread/Margarine Pears
<b>T H U R S 9<sup>th</sup></b>	Apple Juice Dry or Cooked Cereal Scrambled Eggs with Ham Toast/Jelly	Western Dinner *Veal Parmesan Broccoli Cottage Cheese Bread/Margarine Jell-O	Roast Beef/Gravy Mashed Potatoes Spinach Bread/Margarine Fruit Cocktail
<b>F R I 10<sup>th</sup></b>	Orange Juice Hot Chocolate Dry or Cooked Cereal French Toast/Syrup Sausage Toast/Jelly	Pizza *Chicken Fricassee Corn Salad *Nachos & Cheese Cake/Icing	Closed
<b>S A T 11<sup>th</sup></b>		<u>Celebrate National Nutrition Month!</u> • "Food is a source of pleasure and good taste!"	
<b>S U N 12<sup>th</sup></b>			

\*\*Menu subject to change. Milk served at all meals. Salad bar available at the lunch meal. Peanut butter & Jelly AOR. \*Available Brown Cafeteria only.

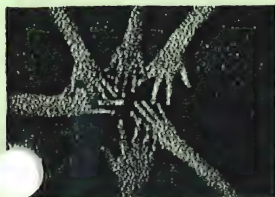


Elementary Dept. Staff  
'99-'00

Fetzer, Chris	Kindergarten	920-6364
Bippus, J.V.	Kindergarten	920-6362
Tester, Dave	Kindergarten	920-6369
Wetzel, Marsha	Kindergarten	920-6407
Philhower, Becki	1st Grade	920-6376
Cook(K.), Marie	1st Grade	920-6372
McGeath, Suzi	2nd Grade	920-6260
Cooper, Linda	2nd Grade	920-6363
Wolfe, Toni	3rd Grade	920-6297
Peters(M), Jeanne	3rd Grade	920-6375
Gaalema, Laura	3rd Grade	920-6365
Vollmar, Guy	4th Grade	920-6260
U. Sung Chung	4th Grade	920-6398
Groogan, Linda	5th Grade	920-6366
Krug, Gretchen	5th Grade	920-6370
Jones, Sue	App. Curriculum	920-6206
Ott, Lou	App. Curriculum	920-6206
Jackson, Mike	Computers	920-6207
Bailey, Dave	P.E.	920-6260
King, Jeff	Art	920-6260
Hakes, Sandy	Comm. Center	920-6260
Kido, Shari	ASL	920-6361
Knebel, Kara	Resources	920-6367
Smith, Scott	SRC Counselor	920-6327
McGeath, Mike	School Counselor	920-6246
Anderson, Ken	Ott's T.A.	920-6379
Byrum, Monica	Philhower's T.A.	920-6379
Walter, Janet	S. McGeath's T.A.	920-6379
Jill Jeffers	Wetzel/Bippus' T.A.	920-6379
Beth Beyke	Tester's T.A.	920-6379
Kelli Phillips	Fetzer's T.A.	920-6379
Geeslin, David	Supervising Tch	920-6265
Smith, Angie	Secretary	920-6260
**Paulone, Teri	Bilingual Consultant	

Linda  
Canty  
Main  
Library





# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 12

March 17, 2000

The smell of spring is just around the corner. Sooner or later, every one of us will be

infected with Spring Fever! It will be time for us to get outside, spread blankets on the grass, and read



books with our children. The best

way to promote reading for your children is to model reading yourself: magazines, books, newspapers, etc.

Our PAC meeting was wonderful. Mary Dall, Joanie Jones, and Leitha Whited were present. We had a passionate discussion about the wonderful idea of wearing school uniforms. Joanie Jones will be the coordinator of the uniform committee for elementary department. We would love to have you attend our next meeting to develop a plan of action, in order to gather support for school uniforms. Our next PAC meeting will be held April 10<sup>th</sup>, the Monday after Spring Break. Please come at 3:15 p.m. and share your views. Again, many thanks for your support of our elementary department.

*Just a friendly reminder: Students are not allowed to wear shorts in the Elementary Department until after May 1<sup>st</sup>.*

## Suzi McGeath's second grade class news

In our Social Studies unit, we are going to learn about "people working together". We are going to have a shop in our classroom during the month of April. Keep your eyes open and start saving some money.



We are pleased that we completed the balance and motion unit in our science program. The next four – six weeks, we are going to learn about air and weather. We have made a daily weather journal. We look forward to making weather equipment to measure and evaluate our daily weather observations.



A "Feast for the Eyes" will be the next distance learning center event. Our class will be teaching Riley Hospital and Deer Run Elementary School about ASL, TTY's, closed-caption TV, & Deaf pride. The event will happen on Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 am in the distance learning center site at the ISD vocational building.

Have a great weekend!  
From all of us in Suzi's class

## Buddy System Project

Mike Jackson

Hello Buddy Parents! How are those computers going? Hope they're still up and running. We had a Buddy System "Sharing Day" in Anderson. This year, instead of Buddy Schools from the entire state meeting at the Adams Mark Hotel here in Indy, we split in to a regional event instead. Indiana School for the Deaf and other Buddy Schools that are in the central region met in Anderson this year. We shared what the students did with the Buddy System during the 1999-2000 academic year. It was a wonderful event. During the 2000-2001 school year, we plan to get ISD even more involved than we have been in the past.



Just a reminder: You should start thinking about backing up your files on disk because those Buddy computers and printers will need to be turned in on May 15, 2000.

### News from Sue and Lou

Last week we had a lot of excitement!! The Dance Kaleidoscope Company came to Elementary Department and gave a performance. When the performance was over, the dance troupe taught us how to interpret a poem through dance and movement. We learned to move our bodies to express the meaning of the poem. We practiced the dance and then on Thursday, the kindergarteners, first and second grade came to our recital to watch us dance. We did a good job and the students liked our recital. We are hooked on dancing!!

The past two weeks we have continued our shopping trips. One week we went to Wal-Mart to look at clothing. We have identified clothing, classified clothing into groups according to the seasons, and chosen appropriate clothing for the weather. The second week we shopped at Marsh for items for our breakfast and snack menus. Sue's class continues to cook breakfast for themselves. Lou's class chooses their favorite, nutritious snacks.

We also have been doing our daily jobs. Last week we worked on book club. We separated the magazines, put different papers together, added a letter, and stapled the magazines together. When we separate the magazines, we get paid for each magazine we count. Some of us earned from 13 to 40 cents. We save our money to buy things from Wal-Mart.

We are looking forward to the nice weather and Spring Vacation.

### Jeanne M. Peters' (Suzanne Bono) Language Arts

The 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders would like to thank Jeff King, who hosted the ASL Poetry/Dance workshop last Wednesday and Thursday. We

enjoyed learning how to express ASL through dance, which increased our confidence and self-esteem. Once again, we really appreciate Mr. King sacrificing time and providing us the opportunity to get involved in the workshop.

The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders from Toni Wolfe and Jeanne M. Peters' classes went bowling last Friday. This purpose of the field trip was to meet their hearing pen pals from Moorhead Elementary School. The students enjoyed talking to each other through writing notes, signing, and speaking. We had a great time. We are looking forward to seeing them next May for another activity. We have not decided what activity we want to do yet.

### Greetings from PTCO!!

This is an exciting time of year with many events coming up. Not only do we have the upcoming Spring Break, PTCO Day in May, and the wonderful months of summer coming up, but we also have our PTCO Officer elections.

We need people to fill various executive officer positions such as President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. In addition, we have nine other positions available for board members. We would like to see parents and staff from various departments serve on this board.

If any of you are interested in serving on the PTCO Board for one year, please contact Wendy Brimmer or Laura Gaalema. Wendy can be contacted via

email: [WBrim75907@aol.com](mailto:WBrim75907@aol.com)

Home nmbr: 317-546-7792 or

leave a message at the PTCO office

Laura can be contacted via email:

[phoenix403@aol.com](mailto:phoenix403@aol.com)

Home nmbr: 317-272-2739 or

leave a message at Elementary Dept

I hope you will consider hopping on board to help make our Deaf School the best



in the nation!!

Mary Dall  
President, PTCO

Minutes from the March 13, 2000 PAC Meeting  
Participants: Leitha Whited, Joanie Jones, Mary Dall, David Geeslin  
Topics covered:

### School Uniforms

Open discussion to gather input from parents and Mr. Geeslin. Generally, the concept of uniforms was well received. Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Dall will introduce the topic at the April 9<sup>th</sup> PTCO meeting to get additional input. Mrs. Jones will track comments and summarize for Mr. Geeslin. One very good point came to light – the process should start in the first grade rather than expect the high school students to accept uniforms. Starting with this integrated approach would eventually result in uniforms for all, with a specific written dress code in the long term.

### Positive Comments from staff to students

Leitha commented that some of the students were ridiculing other students and labeling them for their weaknesses. There was discussion of what the teachers can do or should do to counteract or reduce the negative comments from student peers. We should raise the awareness of the dangers of *student to student* teasing.

### Homework Assignments

The comment was made that there seems to be a great deal of discrepancy from teacher to teacher and grade to grade regarding the amount of homework given. Comparisons were made from a first grade parent of a child here at ISD and of first grade at an Allisonville grade school, as well of our homework practices in the past here at ISD. Another parent said her child consistently receives homework in two subject areas but never in Social Studies. There seems to be a real need

for structure from grade to grade on the length and content of homework.

### Dismissal Time

A parent wondered why the high school students were dismissed at 2:45 and other students were being taught until 3:00 p.m. Is there a standard dismissal time? The subject of finding time for ASL instruction was brought up in relation to this time discrepancy. Mr. Geeslin will look in to this.

### ASL Classes

There has been discussion of increasing the student's ASL fluency and how to achieve this goal. Offering daily ASL classes for the students is one possible solution, but finding the time during the teaching day is the challenge. This led to a discussion of alternative scheduling concepts. Mrs. Dall gave an example of the possible alternative schedule at the school of one of her high school children. This is a topic worth further discussion.

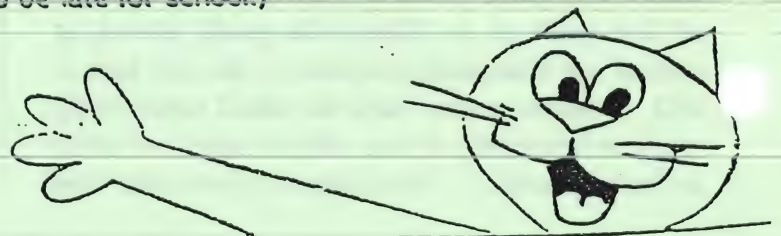




# How parents can help

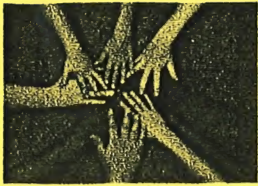
Check this list of things parents can do to help their children learn:

- Read to your child.
- Listen to your child read.
- Play games with your child.
- Help your child get a library card from the public library nearest you. Encourage your child to go to the library as often as possible.
- Go to the library with your child. Help him or her pick out interesting books to read.
- Find out about activities for children that take place at your library.
- Talk to your child about subjects that are interesting to him or her.
- Listen to your child.
- Set aside a special "reading time." Let your child know that you look forward to and enjoy your time together.
- Give your child his or her own place to keep books.
- Write notes to your child.
- Help your child write letters and notes.
- Encourage your child to keep a scrapbook about a subject that interests him or her: stamps, dogs, birds, trucks, etc.
- Limit your child's television watching—select certain shows to watch. Turn the television set on for the show and turn it off immediately after the show is over.
- Read and discuss your child's schoolwork.
- Provide materials such as crayons, art paper and paints for creative projects.
- Give your child a calendar so he or she can write down special events and mark off each day.
- Help your child make a telephone directory with the names and phone numbers of his or her friends.
- Ask your child to add a sentence or two to letters you write to far-away relatives. (Young children can dictate a sentence for you to write.)
- Give your child specific duties to perform on a regular basis at home.
- Let your child help you prepare dinner.
- Subscribe to a children's magazine (in the child's name).
- Bring books for your child to read in the car while he or she waits for you to run errands.
- Look up words in the dictionary with your child.
- Encourage your child to start a collection of rocks, stamps, etc.
- Encourage your child to show his or her schoolwork to your relatives and friends.
- When traveling, read road signs with your child. Discuss what they mean.
- Show your child how to use a yardstick, ruler and tape measure for measuring objects around the house.
- Provide counting experiences for your child.
- Show your child how to count change.
- Give your child a special place (box, dish pan, etc.) to keep items he or she must take to school each morning. (This ends last minute searching for library books, papers, bike keys, etc., all of which can cause your child to be late for school.)
- Show your child how to tell time.





Linda Canty



# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 13

April 20, 2000

Time is running out quickly. There are only twenty-four days left of school. The teachers and I are using every minute as a valuable teaching experience. I would like to encourage each parent to incorporate the same value at home by using your home time wisely with your child, not only to encourage good homework skills, but to model good reading habits. The time spent with your child is so precious. Celebrate your child's school accomplishments at home. Praising your child's efforts will make them want to work harder in school.



Good News! We are setting up a playground committee, which will focus on how to upgrade the quality and safety of our playground. That area is located directly behind the Health Center between Willard and Raney Hall. The meeting will take place on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2 p.m. in the multipurpose room. Outside experts have already surveyed our playground and submitted their recommendations. Their report will be shared with the playground committee. Please let me know if you are interested in serving on that committee. We would like to have at least three parents involved on that committee. Please contact me at my email address- [dgeeslin@wyndtell.com](mailto:dgeeslin@wyndtell.com) or call me at 920-6260 TTY (Relay 800-743-3333).

## Our Kindergarten Report!

Our class has been enjoying the spring weather and preparing for Easter. We have colored Easter

eggs, and in the process studied how colors can mix to form new colors! We have planned an Easter egg hunt.

We also have been studying how we can take better care of our Earth. Earth Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 22. We have talked about how much garbage we throw away and that we need to try to reuse things. We have reused orange juice containers and milk cartons by planting seeds in them. We are also making a bulletin board in the hallway dedicated to Earth Day. Stop by and look at it.

We have been practicing for our play, which we will perform for the K~1 Family Night next Friday. We hope your family will be able to come and enjoy an evening of fun with us. Have a great weekend!

JV Bippus and class

## Kindergarten News!

By

Mike Hughes Bradley Huser Ashley Liford Kristin Ogan  
Chris Fetzer Kelli Phillips Carmel Bouman

We have been quite busy this month. We have been studying seeds and growing things. We have planted sunflower seeds and flowers called



Nasurtium. Both have sprouted and are growing. We also have a shamrock plant that we keep watering, some onions that have sprouted new growth, and a flower assortment. Any plants you need taken care of, we're the group to do it!

We are also preparing for the K~1 Family night next Friday, April 28. We will be performing in "The Gingerbread Boy." All of the Kindergarten students will be involved! We hope to see you there.

Next week, we will be going to the zoo as we continue our study of living things. We look forward to the warmer weather. Remember that no shorts are permitted until the first of May.

**Matter**  
By  
**5<sup>th</sup> Graders**

What's the matter with the 5<sup>th</sup> grade? Matter is what's wrong with them. They have been learning and discovering different forms of matter. They have been exploring the different properties of solid, liquids and gases through different activities and experiments. They have done several activities involving chemical and physical changes in matter. Some of these activities include blue ooze, and goop. Some of the 5<sup>th</sup> graders combined forces to teach the 1st graders how to make crystals to use for their upcoming play, "The Rainbow Fish"

Also this week we will be trying to identify the mystery powder by conducting several experiments. Make sure to ask your child if they were able to identify the mystery powder. Have a safe and Happy Easter!

**Remember matter is everything!**  
**Gretchen and Linda**

**MATH CLUB NEWS**

**By U. Sung Chung and Marie Kellam-Cook**

**On Saturday, April 15, the Division I Math Pentathlon had their tournament. There were five students from the Kindergarten that participated in the event. Meg Katter won a bronze medal; Kate Fetzer, Jenna Smith, Hillary Peters and Maj Lesti won Honorable Mention. They competed with 500 other students from local school systems. They did a GREAT job and we are very proud of them.**

**The Division II Math Pentathlon tournament will be held on May 13. It will be at Lawrence Central High School. We have eight students participating in that event. The participants are Tony Dall, Tyler Grace, Keith Jones, Will Fetzer, Gabriel Paulone, Ann Whited, Scotty Grandt and Isaac Olvey. Good Luck!!!**

**First Grade News**

**By Marie Kellam-Cook**

The first grade students have been practicing for their play that will be presented on April 28 in



the Elementary Gym. Their presentation will be the story of The Rainbow Fish. It's a story about sharing and caring for our friends. The dinner will begin at 6:00 and the play will be at 7:00. The Kindergarten students will also perform on that evening.

On Thursday, April 20, three first graders performed in a Math Contest. They represented the first grade team. They were Corey Garner, Ben Polstra and Jessica Holsinger. They were very nervous, but did an excellent job. All of the students were able to participate in the Math Carnival. It was a great experience.

Please remember when eating a box of cereal, we are collecting the Boxtops for Education on General Mills boxes. PLEASE save those boxtops through the summer, too. Thanks.

## Suzi McGeath's Second Grade Class News

Our "Feast for the Eyes" Distance Learning Center was a great success! The students from Deer Run Elementary school and Riley Hospital for Children had a great time. We began the program with Deer Run Elementary and Riley Hospital students sharing their thoughts about the five questions from the "Think Tank". The five questions we came up with were as follows. 1. What part of the body do Deaf people use the most? 2. Can Deaf people dance? How? 3. Can Deaf people read and write? How? 4. How do Deaf people use the phone? 5. How do Deaf people watch TV or videotapes? It was interesting to see their answers. We shared our answers to the five questions with accurate information.

Each of us had some important roles. Amber explained about why people are deaf. Shakaria shared interesting facts about ASL. Tyler demonstrated fingerspelling the alphabet. The first time he fingerspelled the letters really fast. He slowed down the second time. Scotty showed them how to sign the numbers 1 - 20 and how to sign quickly counting up to 100.

Matthew, Shakaria, and Amber showed family signs, community signs, and school signs. Tyler used the common phrases by showing the differences in English and ASL. Tony talked about how Deaf people communicate on the phone using the TTY. He demonstrated how we know the phone is ringing with a flasher and explained the TTY functions.

At the end of our program, we did a 15 minute question and answer session. Deer Run Elementary school and Riley Hospital students learned a lot from all of us. It was a good learning experience.

Our next Distance Learning event will be on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 - 10:45 am. We will learn about using books and libraries resources. On May 18<sup>th</sup>, we are going to visit Deer Run Elementary School to meet our cyberspace friends. We hope to have a videotape to show you all the wonderful things we learned from using the DLC by end of this school year.

From all of us, have a great weekend!

## YOU'VE BEEN SLIMED!

### Laura Gaalema's Language Arts

We have been learning about 'descriptive' words. We made SLIME, using glue and **BORAX**. The result was a delightful green 'ooze' that was a BLAST to play with! By using our senses, we explored different words that could be used to describe the feel, smell, and appearance of the SLIME. We also talked about what SLIME can do...stretch, bounce, ooze, etc. Using these words, we made sentences describing the SLIME. Here is the recipe for SLIME. You can find **BORAX** in the laundry detergent section of your grocery store. Try making this with your family at home...your kids will think its "COOL"!



**SLIME**

- **1 CUP OF REGULAR WHITE GLUE**
- **1 CUP WATER (SET ASIDE)**
- **FOOD COLORING**
- **1 T. BORAX, DISSOLVED IN A CUP OF WATER**

POUR GLUE INTO A MIXING BOWL. ADD ONE CUP OF WATER. PUT IN 4-5 DROPS OF FOOD COLORING. STIR. ADD THE CUP OF WATER WITH THE BORAX, AND CONTINUE STIRRING. MIX TOGETHER TO FORM YOUR WET, DOUGHY SLIME. USE IMMEDIATELY OR PLACE IN A ZIPLOC BAG TO STORE.

**News from Sue and Lou**

Our classes have had an exciting time the last two weeks preparing for the Elementary Department Math Skills Celebration on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Sue and Lou planned the games and activities for the math carnival and then went shopping! They bought candy eggs, bubble gum, suckers, jellybeans, mixed candy and tattoos. Each game involved a different math skill. When the students finished the games, they got a prize. That was what all the candy was for!! One game was called "slice the pizza", which really tested the students' math skills. They colored paper plates, which looked like pizzas and used construction paper to make toppings. Then they counted to be sure that we had 100 pizzas. That activity required a lot of planning and work, but we completed it, and the pizzas looked good! After all of our hard work, we really enjoyed the math carnival!

**MOOCH from Linda Cooper's Second Grade Class**

Mooch arrived here last Monday. We were happy to see this stuffed monkey in the green box. He was so cute and soft. We enjoyed reading about all of the new deaf friends from R.E.A.D.S, DHH Program in Middleboro, Massachusetts and Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf in Trenton, New Jersey.

We learned about some mathematically related activities involving Mooch. We painted hot air balloons on paper. We did an activity involving Indiana.

We also wrote about ourselves and included some pictures for Mooch's Traveling Journal. It will travel to Kansas School for the Deaf, California School for the Deaf, Riverside, North Dakota School for the Deaf and New York Cleary School for the Deaf within two months. We will miss MOOCH this coming Friday.

**Reminder**

For those of you who participated in the Buddy System Project and have a computer loaned to you from Indiana School for the Deaf will need to be returned to Elementary Department by May 15<sup>th</sup>. If you have anything saved on the computer you will need to back them up. Otherwise the computer will go through same procedure as before. The hard drive will be reformatted and made fresh again.

Mike Jackson  
Buddy Site Coordinator